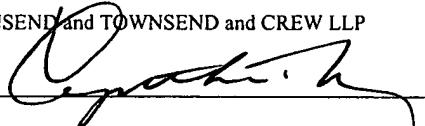


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On 5/13/03

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: 

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

KENJI OBARA, et al.

Application No.: 09/743,560

Filed: January 9, 2001

For: SAMPLE OBSERVATION
METHOD AND EQUIPMENT

Examiner: Anthony G. Quash

Art Unit: 2881

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 17, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

PATENT
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